GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT

October 9, 2003

Honorable Councilmember Jack Evans
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 106
Washington, D.C. 20004

Re: BZA Application No. 16974 – Tudor Place Foundation

Dear Councilmember Evans;

The Office of Zoning received your letter on October 6, 2003 (attached), expressing your support of the above-cited application and your concern relative to the length of time it is taking the Board of Zoning Adjustment (Board) to conclude the hearing process. Please allow me to update you on the status of this application. The application was initially scheduled for public hearing on February 18, 2003. The hearing was cancelled due to the government's closing for a snow emergency. A rescheduled hearing was held on April 15, 2003. It was immediately apparent to the Board that the case was controversial as demonstrated by the level of opposition, including party opposition from the 31st Street Neighbors, represented by Frances Snider, the 32nd Street Neighbors, represented by Norton Katz, and the Q Street Neighbors, represented by Don Crockett. Giving both sides of the application an equal voice in this process demanded a considerable investment of time on this matter by the Board. The April 15th hearing was lengthy and was continued to April 22, 2003. The Board again heard a considerable amount of testimony at this hearing but needed more time and continued the April 22nd hearing to April 29, 2003. The Board allotted a total of 60 minutes to hear the remainder of the case on April 29th to allow the parties in opposition to present their arguments, followed by rebuttal and closing by the Applicant. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board established a timeline for requested information from the parties. The Board announced that it would decide the case on June 3, 2003. The Board postponed making its decision to receive a NEW Traffic Management Plan and a Parking Management Plan from Tudor Place, as well as an additional submission from the Office of Planning. The Board then rescheduled its decision meeting to July 1, 2003. At the request of Tudor Place, the Board postponed its July 1st decision on the application to allow for the submission of additional plans. The postponed public decision date was set for August 5, 2003. The Board, after reviewing the new Traffic Management Plan

BZA
Case No. 16974
Exhibit No. 139

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 16974
EXHIBIT NO. 139

and a Parking Management Plan, on its own motion reopened the record and scheduled a further public hearing for September 16, 2003. The further hearing was limited to Tudor Place's Traffic and Parking Management Plan and the use of Dower House. The September 16th hearing was concluded. The record was left open only to accept draft findings of fact and conclusions of law from the parties, and a final public meeting decision has been scheduled for November 4, 2003, at 9:30 AM.

Please call me directly, or Richard Nero, Jr., Chief, Support Services and Quality Control on (202) 727-2806, if I can be of further assistance in this matter.

SINCERELY,

JERRILY R. KRESS, FAIA
Director, Office of Planning

rsn
Attachment

JK/P
RSN

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

September 30, 2003

RECEIVED
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
2003 OCT -6 PM 3:23

Mr. Geoffrey H. Griffis
Board of Zoning Adjustment
Office of Zoning
Government of the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, N.W. Suite 210-S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Application No. 16974

Dear Mr. Griffis:

It has been brought to my attention that the Tudor Place Historic House and Garden's application for a special exception to operate as a museum is still under review by the Board of Zoning Adjustment. I am perplexed as to what is holding this application up within the Board, particularly considering the unanimous approval of ANC2E, a positive report from the Office of Planning and DDOT, and the support of the Citizens Association of Georgetown.

I have lived in close proximity to Tudor Place for may years. It is minimally intrusive and adds tremendously to the historical, cultural, and business life of Georgetown. The large majority of Georgetown residents value Tudor Place and understand its need to raise funds. I am concerned that opposition from a few may interfere with the continuation of what most neigbhors view as an important historic site.

I look forward to receiving an update from you at your earliest convenience. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Jack Evans
Councilmember, Ward 2